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APPENDIX

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL DIRECTIVE

on

COVERT OPERATIONS ACTIVITIES

1. The National Security Council (NSC), taking cognizance of the worsening of relations between democratic nations and the USSR Communist orbit, and the consequent necessity for strengthening U. S. capabilities for covert operations in time of war, has determined that the procedures for establishing a wartime covert operations organization are now required.

2. The Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) is charged by the NSC with certain responsibilities for the peacetime conduct of covert operations as set forth in NSC 10/2. However, organizational responsibilities for the wartime conduct of covert operations have not been established except by interpretation of paragraph 4 of NSC 10/2 which states that:

"In time of war or national emergency, or when the President directs, all plans for covert operations shall be coordinated with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the execution of covert operations in military theaters shall be under the control of the Joint Chiefs of Staff."

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It is therefore desirable, for operational reasons, to specify the procedures whereby the transition from peacetime responsibilities to wartime responsibilities may be accomplished with minimum disruption of control and without inter-agency friction.

3. In order that wartime covert operations may be fully appreciated and prosecuted, the wartime mission of covert operations is stated as follows:

"To utilize covert operations to the fullest practicable extent to assist in accomplishing the military defeat of the USSR and her satellites in keeping with Allied war objectives."

This mission is based on the strategic concept that covert operations should be conducted in support of overt military operations. The primary objective of covert operations is to reduce the Soviet war potential in areas removed from regular military operations, with other Allied war objectives as secondary aims.

4. Within the CIA an organization has been established to plan and conduct covert operations in peacetime, and in coordination with the Joint Chiefs of Staff to plan and prepare for the conduct of such operations in wartime. It appears desirable, for operational reasons, not to create a new agency for wartime covert operations but to retain the organization within the framework of the CIA and to spell out further the wartime responsibilities and relationships for covert operations.

5. Therefore:

a. In time of war, or when the President directs, the Office established within CIA under the provisions of paragraph 3-a of NSC 10/2 shall come under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

b. In areas where U. S. military forces are engaged in combat (regardless of whether or not a declared war exists) operations that are conducted by the Office established within CIA under the provisions of paragraph 3-a of NSC 10/2 shall come under the direction of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

g. This direction by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in subparagraphs a and b above, will be exercised through the Director of Central Intelligence to the extent required to implement the delineation of responsibilities specified in paragraphs 6 and 7 below. In time of national emergency these provisions apply in areas of impending military operations, as desired by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

6. In time of war, or when the President directs, the following responsibilities and relationships shall obtain in respect to covert operations:

a. The Director of Central Intelligence (DCI) shall be responsible for:

(1) Planning, preparing, and conducting covert operations outside of areas or projected areas of

military operations; the plans for these operations must be acceptable to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in order that they will be coordinated with strategic military plans.

(2) Planning covert operations which, although staged in areas of military operations, have objectives that transcend or do not contribute directly to the military interests. These plans must be approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in order that they will be coordinated with strategic military plans. The Joint Chiefs of Staff will furnish policy direction to both the Director of Central Intelligence and the theater commanders concerned for the execution of these plans in each instance in order to minimize conflict with overt military operations.

(3) Ensuring that CIA covert operations groups and individuals, which may be located in areas or projected areas of military operations, are assigned to the senior U. S. military commander in the area for operations control. Such groups and individuals will maintain their CIA identity and, in so far as the appropriate military commander deems it feasible, will be integrated into the organization of the military commander in the same manner as other specialized military services.



(4) Preparing, with the assistance of the Joint Staff, an Operating Manual for Covert Operations for the purpose of presenting the nature and scope of the organization and activities of the CIA in the field of covert operations. This document shall be submitted to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for approval and after approval shall be used by the DCI and commanders operating under the Joint Chiefs of Staff as basic guidance.

(5) Informing, through appropriate channels, those agencies of the United States Government whose services could assist in implementing plans for covert operations approved by the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(6) Preparing specific plans requested by the Joint Chiefs of Staff and executing such plans for covert operations when approved.

(7) Coordinating with the Secretary of State in order to insure that plans and activities are consistent with the political strategy and political operations and objectives of the United States.

b. The Joint Chiefs of Staff shall be responsible for:

(1) Planning, preparing and conducting covert operations in areas or projected areas of military operations, except for the planning of those covert operations mentioned in 6-g above. The Central Intelligence Agency will plan and prepare for specific covert

operations in accordance with requirements of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (see subparagraph 6-g-(6) above).

(2) Coordinating covert operations in areas outside of areas of military operations by furnishing to the Director of Central Intelligence and theater commanders concerned strategic guidance for plans and operations; and for approving or accepting the plans developed by both the Director of Central Intelligence and theater commanders to ensure that they are coordinated with national military strategy.

(3) Forwarding to theater commanders such policies, directives, and guidance as are in consonance with plans for covert operations which have been approved or accepted.

(4) Keeping informed of the arrangements between theater commanders for local covert operations which may have a bearing on the responsibility of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to plan over-all covert operations.

g. In areas other than theaters of military operations, the senior representative of the DCI shall keep the respective senior political representatives, in the countries concerned, generally advised of covert operations affecting the area of their responsibility or based thereon. He shall obtain political guidance from such senior political representatives with respect to the area of their responsibility or based thereon.

d. The Departments of State and Defense, the National Security Resources Board, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff shall provide continuous guidance and support of the DCI in planning covert operations and insure that such operations and activities receive the necessary and appropriate support.

e. Covert operations groups under the operational control of U. S. military commanders will be provided communication facilities as follows:

(1) For technical and special administrative CIA matters: direct access to CIA--Washington, and to covert operational groups in other theaters.

(2) For policy, control and routine administrative matters: as provided by U. S. military commanders.

7. In areas where U. S. military forces are engaged in combat, regardless of whether or not a declared war exists, all of the provisions of paragraph 6 above will apply, but will be restricted to those areas alone.

8. Covert operations will be conducted only outside the continental limits of the United States.

9. As used in this directive the term "Covert Operations" is to be understood as identical with those activities outlined in paragraph 5, NSC 10/2.